

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) A process for the preparation of a metal-organic compound, comprising at least one imine ligand, characterized in that an imine ligand according to formula 1 or the HA adduct thereof, wherein HA represents an acid, of which H represents its proton and A its conjugate base, is contacted with a metal-organic reagent of formula 2 in the presence of at least 1, respectively at least 2 equivalents of a base, with

$Y=N-R$ as formula 1,

wherein Y is selected from a substituted carbon, or nitrogen atom and R represents a substituent, and with

$M^V(L_1)_k(L_2)_l(L_3)_m(L_4)_nX$ as formula 2, wherein:

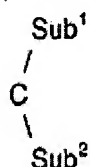
M represents a group 4 or group 5 metal ion

V represents the valency of the metal ion, being 3, 4 or 5

L_1 , L_2 , L_3 , and L_4 represent a ligand or a group 17 halogen atom on M and may be equal or different, X represents a group 17 halogen atom,

$k, l, m, n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ with $k+l+m+n+1=V$.

2. (currently amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein R represents a hydrogen atom and wherein Y is represents a substituent defined by formula 3:



(formula 3)

wherein each of Sub¹ and Sub² is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbyl radicals having from 1 to 30 carbon atoms; silyl radicals, (substituted) amido radicals and (substituted) phosphido radicals, and wherein Sub¹ and Sub² may be linked with each other to form a ring system.

3. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-2~~ claim 1, wherein the base is an amine or a phosphane.

4. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-3~~ claim 1, wherein the base is a dialkylamine, a trialkylamine, a monoarylamine, diarylamine or a triarylamine.

5. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-4~~ claim 1, wherein the base is triethylamine, pyridine, tripropylamine, tributylamine, 1,4-diaza-bicyclo[2.2. 2]octane, pyrrolidine or piperidine.

6. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-2~~ claim 1, wherein the base is a carboxylate, a fluoride, a hydroxide, a cyanide, an amide, a carbonate of Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs, or an ammonium salt or a group 2 metal salt of Mg, Ca, or Ba thereof, an alkali metal (Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs) phosphate, or phosphate ester, or their alkoxide or phenoxides, thallium hydroxide, alkylammonium hydroxides or fluorides, or alkali metals, hydrides or carbonates of Li, Na, K, Rb, Cs or group 2 hydrides.

7. (original) A process according to claim 6, wherein the alkali metal is chosen from Li, Na, or K.

8. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-2~~ claim 1, wherein the base is a group 1, 2, 12,13 hydrocarbanion.

9. (original) A process according to claim 8, wherein the base an organomagnesium- or an organolithium compound.

10. (currently amended) A process according to claim 1, ~~2, 8 or 9~~, carried out in the presence of at least 3 respectively 4 equivalents of an organolithium- or an organomagnesium compound.

11. (currently amended) A process according to ~~claim 1-10~~ claim 1 wherein the reaction is carried out in an aprotic solvent.

12. (original) A process according to claim 11, wherein the solvent is the base.

13. (currently amended) Process for the preparation of a polyolefin by making a metal-organic compound according to the process of ~~claims 1-12~~ claim 1, wherein the base is an olefin polymerisation compatible base, which metal-organic compound is activated anywhere in, or before a polymerisation equipment.

14. (original) Process according claim 13, wherein the metal-organic compound is formed used without purification.

15. (currently amended) Process according to claim 13 ~~or 14~~, wherein the metal-organic compound is formed in the polymerisation equipment.

16. (original) Process according to claim 15, in the presence of between 5 and 10 equivalents of the imine or its HA adduct according to formula 1.